My Dear Sisters,

In this year of greater, I express my Christmas greetings and good wishes to each of you. We are reminded of the true meaning of Christmas where Christ is our central focus.

I encourage you to continue in the spirit of Thanksgiving one toward the other, as we reach out to serve those in need.

Thank you for your donations of food and items to the students at Burton-Pack Elementary School as they depart for the winter break. This effort is being chaired by our Community Service Committee.

Our Annual Christmas Social chaired by our Program Committee was held at our newly renovated Lakeview Empowerment Center. We enjoyed fun, food, fellowship and entertainment and welcomed sisters into the Sisterhood.

Thank you for being a light to those in need. Let us continue to put more Christ into Christmas as we reach out and celebrate the joy of this season.

I offer to each of you warm wishes for a joyous Christmas.

Merry Christmas My Sisters,

Mrs. Robin H. Jackson

Sisterhood Membership Drive

The Sisterhood membership renewal time is upon us. We encourage each member of the Sisterhood to invite at least one non-member to become a member. Membership dues of only $10 covers January - December and should be renewed annually. Our membership drive will be held on January 18 and 25, 2015 at Brookland West and Northeast campuses. We also have the opportunity to join or renew membership online by accessing the Sisterhood web page under “ministries” at www.brooklandbaptist.org. Come be a part of a ministry, “Where Sisters Embrace Sisters”.

First Lady Robin H. Jackson
Sisterhood President
Sister On the Move Spotlight

Jackie Dean Griffin is a Realtor with Keller Williams Realty in Northeast Columbia. She chose them after reading their Mission and Value Statements: “To build careers worth having, businesses worth owning and lives worth living” and prioritize “God, Family, and then business”.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Hampton University, a Masters from the University of Connecticut and her M.Ed in Educational Leadership from Central Connecticut State University. She was a high school educator and department administrator in Hartford, Connecticut, retiring after serving 35 years. Additionally, she worked 12 years as an adjunct professor at Eastern Connecticut State University, teaching “Master Student” study skills and Public Speaking Techniques. Jackie also served as consultant/trainer to Capital Region Education Council (CREC) and the State Dept of Ed. training future teachers, conducting teacher observations, and evaluating Connecticut College & University Education Programs. She focused on making life better for those she served by being extremely active with her students, the community and her church. She took students on historically black college tours, first in her car, then by chartered bus, which grew into a tri-city consortium. She’s blessed to have won numerous awards, including City of Hartford Teacher of The Year, the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) National Excellence in Teaching Award, Christa McAuliffe Fellowship and The Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award.

After retiring Jackie mediated over “what’s next?” and was led by her higher power to combine her love of interior and architectural design, with her desire to continue to educate and serve. The decision was made to become a realtor. She has found her niche and embarked upon a second career. With first-time homeowners, she focuses on being financially responsible. She doesn’t want them to purchase a home and lose it a few years later, due to poor money management. Jackie regularly sponsors free small group seminars on budgeting and money management techniques and often includes the Christian principles learned in the Brookland Financial Ministry class.

Jackie is a Brookland Baptist Church member, sings in the Sonrise Chorale and Benevolent Choir and a member of the Sisterhood. She is also member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. and chairs the Auntie Karen Foundation, Legends of...Concert Silent Auction. Finally, she’s a charter member of COLA/Gives, a community based philanthropic organization, the first African American Giving Circle in South Carolina. A recent project included donations to Lakeview Empowerment Center.

Jackie is happily married to Eddie Griffin. They are parents of two; Marcy and Paul (wife Tracey), and grandparents of two, Joshua an Austin. She is a chronic optimist who believes, “Can’t is not an option”. Yes, Jackie is certainly a sister on the move and constantly thanks God for having the opportunity to be so.

Sisterhood Christmas Social

The Sisterhood Christmas Social was held on Thursday, December 11, 2014 from 6 - 10 p.m. at the Brookland Lakeview Empowerment Center. Sisters enjoyed a relaxing and fun time as they indulged in a delicious meal, live entertainment, games, friendly fellowship, and other fun Christmas surprises. The sisters donated many unwrapped gifts for the children of Burton-Pack Elementary School. This night to remember was vividly captured in photos by Lin Johnson, of Picture This Photography!
Community Service Initiatives

The Sisterhood just wrapped up our annual Toy Drive for Burton-Pack Elementary School at the Sisterhood Christmas Social. We are still collecting non-perishable food items and school supplies for the school and a deadline for these items is forthcoming. The committee will also be volunteering to mentor, tutor, and offer clerical assistance to the school. Finally, the community service committee will be providing fruit and cookies to the Ronald McDonald House during the Christmas holidays. For more information, email Bessie Glenn, Community Service chairperson at bleeglenn@hotmail.com.

The SC Chapter of National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice donated two boxes of snacks (chips, cookies, peanuts, crackers, etc.) to the Brookland Baptist Sisterhood Ministry for the students of Burton-Pack Elementary School. Special thanks to Tyra Risher and the other members for all that they do in the community.

Sisterhood's Online Gift Shop

Check out our online gift shop available through CafePress at www.cafepress.com/brooklandbaptistsisterhood. Our shop includes Sisterhood t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, caps, bags, drinkware, jewelry, buttons, magnets, stationery, and more!

All major credit cards are accepted including Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express and check cards, CafePress guarantees 100% secure ordering. A 30-day money-back guarantee applies to all purchases. You may place your orders online or by phone at 1-877-809-1659. Once processed, orders will be shipped directly to you at the street address you provide.

Enjoy shopping in the Sisterhood Online Gift Shop for yourself or for gifts for other sisters!

Sisterhood House Wish List

In our efforts to complete the Sisterhood House and make it fully operational, we are in need of a number of remaining items. Following is a list of those items. Please review the list, and if you can donate one of more of them or refer us to someone who can, we would be very grateful.

Items Needed for the Sisterhood House:

- Large, metal trash can with lid for kitchen
- White dinner dishes (service for 20)
- Dishwasher
- Utensils
- White cloth napkins
- Drinking glasses
- Stemware
- Serving trays
- Punch bowl
- Household items including 40 & 60-watt light bulbs, air fresheners, liquid hand soap, hand sanitizer, hand lotion, dish detergent, paper napkins, bathroom tissue, seasonal napkins, paper towels, aluminum foil, plastic wrap
- Pots and pans
- Kitchen matt (burgundy and cream)
- Long rug for hallway (burgundy and cream) size 120" L x 60" W
- Round rug with fringes to fit under round table in library (burgundy and cream) approximately 7 ½ feet round
- Broom & mop
- Bucket
- Free-standing easel with pad
- Digital camera

To donate items, please email Janice Hoyle, chairperson of the Hospitality Committee at janicehoyle@bellsouth.net to make arrangements for delivery of your donation(s). Thank you so much for your consideration of this request.

Sisterhood Golf Clinic

It is not too late for you to participate in the Sisterhood Golf Clinic. Come learn the basics of golfing and how you can continue to develop your game. The golf clinic is conducted by professional coaches.

Sessions are held the second Saturday each month from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Our next session will be on January 10, 2014 at the James E. Clyburn Golf Center at 2091 Slighs Avenue, Columbia, SC 29201.

The cost is only $40 for the year through May 9, 2015 and includes monthly one-hour private group golf lessons with the certified instructors and access to weekly public Ladies Golf Clinic each Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. Golf clubs are available for ladies who need them. New comers are welcome and you may pay your fee at the first session you attend. For more information, email sisterhood@brooklandbaptist.org.
Sisters, Do You Want to Make A Difference?

If you answered yes, then we encourage you to become a member of the Brookland Baptist Sisterhood. Our mission is to edify, educate and facilitate the spiritual growth and maturity of women. Our purpose is to provide ongoing opportunities for spiritual and emotional growth, promote family stability and relationships and support community service among women. If you want to make a difference and meet the following criteria: 1) Are a female 18 years or older, 2) Are committed to and agree with the mission and objectives of the Sisterhood and 3) Pay the annual membership fee of $10, we look forward to embracing you at our next Sisterhood event or meeting. You may join online or at the Sisterhood member meetings throughout the year. For more information, email sisterhood@brooklandbaptist.org or visit us online at www.brooklandbaptist.org under "ministries."

Let’s Connect at Upcoming Events!

2015 Meetings and Events

January 10: Sisterhood Golf Clinic, James E. Clyburn Golf Center, 9:30 a.m.

January 18: Sisterhood Membership Drive, Brookland West and Northeast Campuses

January 24: Sisterhood and Black Girls RUN! Run/Walk, Riverfront Park, 7:50 a.m.

January 25: Sisterhood Membership Drive, Brookland West and Northeast Campuses

February 14: Members Meeting, Brookland West Campus, 9 – 11 a.m.

Put Your Gifts to Work on a Sisterhood Committee

Public Relations/Marketing: Promotes the Sisterhood to members of Brookland Baptist Church and the community.
Chairperson: Cynthia Legette Davis; Northeast Campus Liaison: Sandra Best

Programs: Plans and implements all programs and activities for the Sisterhood except those planned and implemented by the Special Projects Committee.
Chairperson: Leslie Williams

Special Projects: Plans events and activities beyond the annual events planned and implemented by the Programs Committee.
Chairperson: Kaci Francis

Community Service: Develops and promotes active participation in community service projects.
Chairperson: Bessie Glenn

Membership: Manages all membership initiatives.
Chairperson: Tiffany Scott

Hospitality/Volunteer: Coordinates refreshments for meetings and workshops. Recruits and coordinates volunteers for events.
Chairperson: Janice Hoyle

For more information about the Brookland Baptist Sisterhood, email sisterhood@brooklandbaptist.org.